

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

450 N Street Sacramento California 95814

JOHN CHIANG CHAIR, BOE

660 S. FIGUEROA ST. LOS ANGELES, CA 90017 (213) 239-8506

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 14, 2006 Contact: Tom Waldman

(213) 239-8511

Website: www.boe.ca.gov

CHIANG'S OFFICE EXTENDS HOURS FOR FREE TAX SERVICES

Tax specialists from the Franchise Tax Board and State Board of Equalization and an attorney with the firm of Morgan Lewis will provide free tax services to low-income families, senior citizens, and individual taxpayers until 7 p.m. on Monday, April 17, the final day of filing, at the downtown Los Angeles office of John Chiang, Chair State Board of Equalization. The office is located at 660 S. Figueroa St., Suite 2050.

The service is in conjunction with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, which Chiang's office has provided for the past five years. Taxpayers wishing to make an appointment are urged to call the office at (213) 239-8506.

"We will keep the office open to accommodate last-minute filers," said Chiang. "Every effort will be made to assist taxpayers who do not have the means to pay for professional services, nor the expertise to complete complicated forms on their own."

Chiang's offices in Los Angeles and Sacramento are among 1,800 VITA centers across California. Trained staff help low-income families, students, seniors, and people with disabilities file their state and federal income taxes.

During the past five years Chiang's office has helped numerous people file for their Earned Income Tax Credit, a refundable federal income tax credit for low-income working individuals and families.

John Chiang was first elected to the Board of Equalization in 1998, and re-elected in 2002. In December 2004, he was named by his colleagues BOE Chair. He also serves as a member of the Franchise Tax Board.

Chiang represents the BOE's 4^{th} District, which includes 73 cities in Los Angeles County, including Los Angeles, and contains more than 8.5 million people.

###